This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)	Monocarboxylate transporter 1 (MCT1)	<p>Mouse and patient sample studies suggest increasing MCT1 levels could help decrease neurodegeneration in ALS. In mice, Mct1 knockdown in the optic nerve or corpus callosum increased axon degeneration compared with normal Mct1 expression. In an ALS mouse model and patients with ALS, oligodendrocyte MCT1 levels were lower than those in non-ALS mice and patients. Ongoing work includes developing small molecules and using genetic overexpression to increase MCT1 levels in mouse models of ALS and evaluate disease progression.</p> <p>SciBX 5(29); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.761 Published online July 26, 2012</p>	Unpatented; available for licensing	<p>Lee, Y. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online July 12, 2012; doi:10.1038/nature11314 Contact: Jeffrey D. Rothstein, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md. e-mail: jrothstein@jhmi.edu</p>